


**SISTER CITY VISIT BY A
DELEGATION FROM
LAOSHAN DISTRICT,
QINGDAO, SHANDONG
PROVINCE, CHINA**

October 25 –27, 2011

DELEGATION FROM LAOSHAN DISTRICT VISITED THE CITY OF COLUMBIA OCTOBER 25-27, 2011

- A delegation from Columbia's sister city -- Laoshan District, Qingdao, Shandong Province, China – visited Columbia Oct. 25-27. The purpose of the visit was to share common interests, such as government, business and education, and enjoy social and cultural exchanges.
- The City welcomed:
 - Mr. Zhang Yongbo - Political Consultative Conference of Laoshan District, Vice Director
 - Mr. Jiang Xinyun - Office of Peoples Government of Laoshan District, Vice Director
 - Mr. Gao Hongliang - Legal Office of Laoshan District, Director
 - Mr. Li Xingshui - Statistics Bureau of Laoshan District, Director
 - Mr. Liu Qiang - Beizhai Sub-district of Laoshan District, Director
 - Ms. Qiu Shuoyan - Commercial Bureau of Laoshan District, Translator
- A public reception was held Wednesday, Oct. 26, from 4:15 - 5:30 p.m. at City Hall. Other events included an economic development session at the Missouri Innovation Center, a public safety lunch at the University of Missouri Alumni Center, a collaboration session with Columbia Friends of China and MU Friendship Association of Chinese Scholars and Students, coffee with City Manager Mike Matthes and a driving  tour of the city.

WHERE IS QINGDAO CITY?

- Qingdao City is located in the southern part of Shandong Peninsula. Laoshan, named after Laoshan Mountain, is one of the seven urban districts and is located on east part of Qingdao. The region has a north temperate zone monsoon climate with moderate temperatures all year.
- Laoshan and Columbia initiated the sister city relationship May 17, 2006. The relationship is sponsored by the Columbia Friends of China.
 - Official Web Site: www.laoshan.gov.cn
 - Qingdao population: more than 8.1 million
 - Laoshan population: 191,400
 - Land Area: 389.34 square kilometers
 - District Director: Honorable Wang Wei Da



A view of the Qingdao city skyline



www.columbiafriendsofchina.com



MEETING AT THE MU LIFE SCIENCE BUSINESS INCUBATOR
WITH MS. NA YANG (LEFT), FROM THE MISSOURI DEPARTMENT
OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND MR. DAVE GRIGGS, FROM
REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, INC (R.E.D.I.)



MR. JAKE HALLIDAY (CENTER) INTRODUCES THE DELEGATES TO A RESEARCHER WHO IS BASED AT MU LIFE SCIENCE BUSINESS INCUBATOR AT MONSANTO PLACE



THE LAOSHAN DELEGATION MEETS MAYOR BOB McDAVID



COLLABORATION SESSION WITH COLUMBIA FRIENDS OF CHINA AND MU FRIENDSHIP ASSOCIATION OF CHINESE SCHOLARS AND STUDENTS



MS. ZIM SCHWARTZE, DIRECTOR OF JOINT COMMUNICATIONS AND OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT, POSES WITH MR. ZHANG YONGBO, VICE DIRECTOR OF LAOSHAN DISTRICT



OFFICIAL WELCOME BY MAYOR McDAVID, DURING THE PUBLIC RECEPTION AT CITY HALL



MAYOR McDAVID ACCEPTS A GIFT FOR THE CITY OF COLUMBIA FROM LAOSHAN DISTRICT VICE DIRECTOR MR. ZHANG YONGBO



IRONWEED BLUEGRASS BAND PERFORMS DURING THE RECEPTION



MS. JANE ACCURSO AND MR. DIERIK LEONHARD
SHARE PHOTOS, FROM THEIR 2008 VISIT TO LAOSHAN,
WITH MR. LI XINGSHUI



THE DELEGATES AND THEIR COLUMBIA HOSTS PAUSED TO TAKE A PICTURE UNDER THE KEYHOLE, THEN WALKED TO BLEU RESTAURANT FOR DINNER



MS. HSIAO-MEI WIEDMEYER AND MR. JIM LOWARY
(FOREGROUND), FROM COLUMBIA FRIENDS OF CHINA,
SPONSOR A TOAST TO THE DELEGATES DURING DINNER



THE GROUP SAYS GOODBYE TO THE CITY OF COLUMBIA, WEARING THEIR NEW ST. LOUIS CARDINALS HATS

From left: Mr. Gao Hongliang; Mr. Li Xingshui; Mr. Liu Qiang; Ms. Lillian Sung, from Columbia Friends of China; Ms. Qiu Shouyan; Ms. Hsiao-mei Wiedmeyer, from Columbia Friends of China; Mr. Zhang Yongbo; Ms. Renee Graham, from the City of Columbia; Mr. Jiang Xinyun

